

THE SEQUACHEE NEWS.

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A Wonderful Horse.

While in Chattanooga on Friday last your correspondent met an old boy-hood acquaintance in the person of Dr. William Key, colored, who is running a veterinary sanitarium and exhibiting his wonderful trained and trick horse "Jim." Dr. Key was born a slave in Bedford County in the 30's, and continued a slave until Lincoln's proclamation freed him.

His life has been a somewhat remarkable one, and he deserves something more than a passing notice as a fine illustration of the fidelity and sterling integrity of the better type of the Southern negro, born and reared in the olden-time "fo de wah."

Key's master, whose name he bears, apprenticed the young negro to a blacksmith and he soon developed into a skilled workman in that line, and from that time to his day of freedom was accustomed to hire his time from his master year by year, making money and promptly paying his hire. In the meantime he developed an expert knowledge of the good and bad points in horses, and became a skilled horse trainer and horse doctor.

Soon after the war he got up a liniment, "good for man and beast," and gave it the name of the "Keystone Liniment." He soon began to sell it as a street fakir, and made money at it. He organized a minstrel band of his own race, provided himself with a wagon and went travelling through the South selling his liniment and gathering in thereby considerable money clear of his expenses, which were necessarily heavy. He invested his money, or a portion of it, in a small farm in Bedford County and some houses and lots in Shelbyville his home. His old master had died during the war or about its close, leaving his farm encumbered with a heavy mortgage, and his family in straightened circumstances. As soon as Bill, the former servant and subject of this sketch, became aware of this condition of his old mistress and her family he began, without solicitation, to extend them substantial financial aid, and, in addition to this, he lifted the mortgage from the farm and restored it to his old mistress' possession free of debt. For these benefactions the faithful negro refused any return for the large amounts of money he had thus expended so generously in aid of his former employer. He has been in Chattanooga four years, running his veterinary sanitarium. He still owns his farm and houses and lots in Bedford. He is making some money in his present occupation, but thinks there is a fortune in his wonderful trained trick-horse "Jim," by traveling and exhibiting his astonishing horse sense, which is, indeed, almost equal to human intelligence, if he could only get a partner or reliable manager to manage the crowd while he managed the horse. Among the hundred of tricks, or rather intelligent feats, of

his truly wonderful horse I mention a few: Taking a letter from any box in an ordinary postoffice case and delivering it to the spectator who calls for it, never missing the right number; opening a cash drawer and taking in his teeth a dollar, half-dollar dime or nickel, whichever is called for, shutting the drawer and delivering the coin to the person calling for it; turning the wheel of fortune, and going to a case, pulling out a drawer, taking out an envelope with the answer in it and delivering it to the person whose fortune is being told; grinding out a tune with a hand organ, turning the crank with his nose or mouth; taking a silver dollar, at command, from the bottom of a bucket of water without drinking a drop of water or spilling it out of the bucket; ringing up the street car fare as nickels are dropped into the box, and many other performances of a like remarkable nature, considering that the performer is a dumb brute. The horse is a large, beautiful animal 9 years old. Dr. Key values him at \$10,000.—Nashville American.

The exact counterpart of this wonderful trick horse is owned by Mr. C. C. Houts of this place. As he is beyond question the best horse in town, Mr. Houts would not sell him anything short of a high figure. The horse is a beauty, and Mr. Houts says he is so nearly exactly like the Chattanooga horse that when they were placed side by side one could hardly be distinguished from the other.

Grand Rivers Reviving.

The people at Grand Rivers are very much encouraged at the prospects of a resumption of operations there. The Herald says: "The worst days of Grand Rivers have passed away and brighter ones are close at hand. Changes have been made in connection with the Grand Rivers enterprise, which makes its revival only a matter of a few months' time at the longest. There has been a change of ownership of the 'inside property' of the Grand Rivers Company, amounting to about 2,700 acres of land and 850 lots, and begin as soon as practicable to build Grand Rivers on a sound, safe and permanent business basis. The sale cannot be confirmed until the Circuit Court meets in April. Then watch Grand Rivers and watch it every week."

J. M. Curnutt writing from Globe, Arizona to the News, says: I have not been enjoying good health since I came here for the measles has given me a severe shaking up. I hope to be able to write you some news soon. We are having some pleasant rain now. I enjoy reading the News very much."

Joseph Green of Victoria was in town Saturday.

LOCAL.

John Lee was in So. Pittsburg Tuesday.

Breck Turner went to So. Pittsburg Monday.

Andrew Harris, of Victoria was here Saturday.

J. G. Lankester, of Jasper, was in town Saturday.

John D. Miller, of Victoria, was in town Saturday.

Miss Kate Haynes went to South Pittsburg Tuesday.

An over supply of matter necessitates a supplement this week.

Wm. Owen is clearing up some land near his orchard on the mountain.

Richard Parkes, Esq., of Victoria, attended G. A. R. meeting here Saturday.

J. C. Hoodenpyle, of Daus, is bound over to the United States Court for wildcatting.

The Debating Society seems to be the big thing of the town now—that is judging from the conversation of the members.

Mrs. A. H. Huntington of Chattanooga who has been visiting her sister here, returned to Chattanooga, Wednesday last.

The South Pittsburg Republican man says: "We have been without lights so long we have kinder got used to being a country village."

Col. S. H. Melcher and daughter Nina, left Monday morning for Mentone, Ala., whither they were called by the sudden illness of Mrs. Melcher.

We welcome to our exchange list the Sequachee News, published at Sequachee, Tenn., which is a bright and newsy weekly.—Ducktown Gazette.

A copy of the Winchester, Mass., Star turned up at this office recently. It is an excellent publication. We invite the publisher to "ex" with this issue.

Mrs. James Degnan and children left here for Athens, Tenn., Tuesday morning. We understand Mr. Degnan has a fine position there and is doing well.

Col. George Washington Watley from the mountain, was in town Saturday, and handsomely remembered the News with a bushel of the nicest mealiest potatoes we have seen for a long time.

It is no mistake that we do the best job work around. Our paper is good, our prices are low, and we do not allow bad printing to leave the office, which is more than some other offices can say.

It has been rather severe weather during the past week, but when spring comes, be prepared to shed your coat right off. The spring is late this year, which means hot weather when it does come.

The News is indebted to Senator Harris, for U. S. Census report on Crime, Pauperism, and Benevolence at the Eleventh Census, for which we express our thanks. Senator Harris never forgets the newspapers.

A Special Offer.

We beg leave to call the attention of our readers to the wonderful offer made in another place in connection with the Courier-Journal. We will send the tri-weekly Courier Journal, and The News for three months for 50c cash, and in addition will send the Courier-Journal Almanac, a book of 500 pages FREE. If you have already paid your subscription to the News and wish to take up with this magnificent offer, it will be no hindrance for you to subscribe as we will simply advance your subscription three months longer. It goes without saying that the Courier-Journal is a magnificent paper, and is practically the best paper in the south. It gives all the Washington news and its editorials are unrivalled. Take up with this offer at once as it is only for a short time.

The Next Debate.

Although the next debate is private, for the sake of showing the people just what our Debating Society is doing, we give the program.

1. Question.—Resolved that women should be allowed to vote.

Affirmative—James Martin, Edwin Pryor, and L. Venable.

Negative—Edgar Pryor, Laurence Burratt, and H. E. Tate.

2. Reading, Agnes Lasater.

3. Recitation, Emma Gabel.

4. Reading, Myrtle Rogers.

5. Recitation, Miss Sallie Roberson.

6. Paper, Miss Matilde Gustafson.

They Make Coke Now.

As the production of coal by the convicts at the Brushy Mountain mines is largely in excess of the demand, the Penitentiary Commission at Nashville is now figuring on the cost of making coke, and it is very probable that in the near future, coke ovens will be built on the Tennessee State penitentiary lands there.

To Extend the M. & C.

The Manufacturer's Record says arrangements are being considered as to the feasibility of extending the Memphis & Charleston road from Stevenson to Chattanooga at an expense of \$1,500,000. R. B. Pegram, Memphis, Tenn., is chief engineer. The extension would be twenty-five miles long.

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